



M E D I A R E L E A S E

STATE OF TENNESSEE
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND CONSERVATION

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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BURGESS FALLS STATE PARK AND NATURAL AREA WILL HOST FOURTH ANNUAL BUTTERFLY GARDEN CELEBRATION AUGUST 9

Nashville, Tenn. - Burgess Falls State Park and Natural Area in Sparta will host its fourth annual Butterfly Garden Celebration from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Aug. 9. A variety of educational programs will be offered in the award-winning garden and surrounding park for this event.

"We want to encourage people to come out and enjoy the day in our wonderful native butterfly garden," said Bill Summers, park manager. "Our staff worked alongside the Putnam County Master Gardeners and other volunteers to create this beautiful garden, and we want to celebrate their efforts at the peak of the butterfly garden's beauty this summer."

Scheduled programs will include:

9 a.m. - Walk in the Woods

State Naturalist Randy Hedgepath will take participants on an easy hike through the forest, talking about trees and telling their stories.

10 a.m. - Goodness Snakes Alive

The park's cold-blooded residents will be discussed at the amphitheater.

11 a.m. and 2 p.m. - Butterfly and Moth Identification Walks

Rita Venable will teach participants how to identify butterflies and moths as they walk through the park. This program will begin at the amphitheater, and participants are encouraged to bring binoculars.

11:30 a.m. - Landscaping with Native Plants

Participants will learn how to landscape with native plants and attract butterflies and other wildlife to their yards. This program will be held at the amphitheater.

Noon - Creek Studies

Participants will learn to measure a stream's health by observing the animals that live within it. They will meet at the picnic pavilion and should wear wading shoes.

1 p.m. - Birds of Prey

Participants will learn about native hawks and owls at the amphitheater.

1 p.m. - Butterfly Identification Walk

Middle Tennessee Naturalist John Froeschauer will lead an informal butterfly identification walk, beginning in the open garden and continuing into the nearby woodland habitat. His talk will focus on native butterfly food and nectar plants. Participants are encouraged to bring binoculars.

2 p.m. - Hike to the Big Falls Overlook

Participants will take an hour-long hike from the amphitheater to the main falls overlook. They should wear sturdy shoes and bring water.

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Burgess Falls is a 350-acre park, which lies on the rugged Eastern Highland Rim in Putnam and White counties. It is noted for its sheer bluffs, narrow ridges, waterfalls and diverse forests. Tennessee's 53 state parks offer diverse natural, recreational and cultural experiences for individuals, families or business and professional groups. State park features range from pristine natural areas to 18-hole championship golf courses.

For additional information about Tennessee State Parks, visit the Web site at www.tnstateparks.com or call 1-888-867-2757 for a free brochure. More information about Tennessee's natural areas program can be found at www.tn.gov/environment/na/.

For more information about the Butterfly Garden Celebration at Burgess Falls State Park and Natural Area, please call (931) 432-5312.

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